

## Kottan to help Pak cricket

INTERNET, undated

Pakistan have called in former Bangladesh football coach Austrian George Kottan to help their cricketers prepare for the Champions Trophy.

George Kottan, who was also hired by Pakistan's Football Association earlier this year, said he been asked to give tips and lectures to the cricketers on improving their fitness for the tournament in South Africa starting later this month.

"Having played and coached football players all my life it is a very different experience working on the fitness of cricketers," Kottan said on Saturday.

"But since cricket is such a big sport in Pakistan I got a good insight on how these guys work and achieve results."

Pakistan manager Yawar Saeed said the idea to invite Kottan to the training camp had come from captain Younus Khan.

"The players play football regularly in the camp and the feeling was that Kottan could give some valuable tips to the players as football is a very demanding sport," Saeed said.

## Alvaro slates

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The long-serving Abahani coach believed the players could have got much better if they had another week or so for the conditioning camp.

"However, the physical condition of the players is better compared to the last season and I think it will be the key factor in the coming season," said Amolesh, who guided Abahani to two successive B. League titles.

Amolesh, however, was a bit worried as he was getting little time to work with the players with the ball.

Meanwhile, Ghanaian striker Awudu Ibrahim, who arrived here on Saturday, joined the camp and Abul Hossain, who left the conditioning camp following his fever, also joined the camp.

## Aus clinch

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The experienced Paul Collingwood also couldn't seize the initiative, his 23 taking 39 balls and featuring a solitary boundary.

Owais Shah (40 off 48 balls) and Luke Wright (38 off 27) upped the tempo but by then England were behind the required run-rate.

"When you're chasing 260-odd you need one of your batters to get a big score," said England captain Andrew Strauss, himself out for 12.

"There were plenty of contributions but no one made a sizeable enough one to turn the game in our favour."

One consolation for England was the form of 21-year-old Adil Rashid.

In only his second match at this level, and first against Test opposition, the leg-spinner bowled 10 economical overs for 37 runs -- and on another day might have had Ferguson lbw for nought -- and then made a brisk 31 not out off 23 balls with four fours.

"We've always known Adil was a very talented individual with ball and bat," said Strauss. "Today, in a big game for him, I thought he was exceptional with the way he bowled."

"That's encouraging. He's got the capability to be a genuine all-rounder."

## Fletcher

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have high expectancy on myself. No matter what the pressure the fans put on me, it won't be as much as I put on myself to do well for my country.

"That's part and parcel of football. I've been around for a few years now and I've learned how to deal with that type of thing. The pressure comes from myself first and foremost and expectancy is something you have to deal with."

## Roman

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them six to seven days to reach the summit," said Mdesa.

He said Abramovich would also visit the Serengeti National park before he flies out of the country on September 11.

The Chelsea boss arrived in Tanzania on the day FIFA fined his club and hit it with a ban on signing players until January 2011 as a punishment for their role in a contractual dispute.

The sanction came after FIFA's Dispute Resolution Chamber (DRC) found Chelsea guilty of inducing French teenager player Gael Kakuta to break his contract with French first division club Lens.

Chelsea plan to appeal against the ruling.



Aussie fast bowler Brett Lee (C) celebrates with teammates after dismissing England captain Andrew Strauss (not in picture) in the first ODI of the seven match series at The Oval on Friday.

## Renault in hot water

AFP, Paris



Renault were told on Friday they must appear before an extraordinary hearing of the FIA's World Motor Sport Council to answer charges that they caused a deliberate crash in last year's Singapore Grand Prix.

The meeting will take place on September 21 when team officials will be asked to account for Nelson Piquet's crash in the night race, after suspicions were raised that the accident was intentional with the aim of helping teammate Fernando Alonso win.

"Renault F1 have been requested to appear before an extraordinary meeting of the FIA World Motor Sport Council in Paris on Monday, 21 September 2009," said a statement released by the FIA.

"The team representatives have been called to answer charges... that the team conspired with its driver, Nelson Piquet Jr, to cause a deliberate crash at the 2008 Singapore Grand Prix with the aim of causing the deployment of the safety car to the advantage of its other driver, Fernando Alonso."

Alonso's victory in Singapore came after he had enjoyed the advantage of refuelling just before Piquet's crash, which introduced the safety car period.

Piquet has denied all suggestions that he was ordered to crash and instead he has insisted that he spun off because he was pushing too hard.

Piquet was dismissed by Renault last month and was afterwards outspoken in his criticism of the team and team boss Flavio Briatore, describing the Italian as his executioner.

Later Friday, Renault said they would not comment on the incident.

"The Renault F1 Team acknowledges the FIA's request for representatives of the team to appear before the FIA World Motor Sport Council in Paris on the 21st of September 2009," said a team statement.

"Before attending the hearing, the team will not make any further comment."

Former world champions Renault have already been in the FIA dock this season.

They were banned for one race after a wheel flew off Alonso's car at the Hungarian Grand Prix.

However, the suspension, which would have ruled Alonso out of his home race in Valencia in August, was lifted on appeal.

## Veeru fought the system

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players are playing for India from Delhi. That is one good thing. Delhi has so much talent but talented players are not playing in Under-19 level. That's why I raised this issue."

Sehwag was reported to be seeking a move from Delhi, the state he has represented since 1998, to Haryana from the 2009-10 season onwards, because of interference in selection matters.

Along with Gautam Gambhir, his India teammate and Delhi vice-captain, he met Arun Jaitley, the Delhi and Districts Cricket Association president, in the presence of former India captain Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi last month to

resolve the issue last month. Sehwag said the meeting had been positive and was happy Pataudi had attended it on his request.

Sehwag had earlier said Jaitley assured him during the meeting that selectors with "ethics, integrity and spine" would be appointed.

He also denied rumours that he had sought a move to Haryana because the association had promised him land in the state. "That is not true. Everybody knows me, I am a straightforward guy. If I wanted something I would go and ask the President of DDCA or somebody else. Haryana gave me land because of my second triple hundred, not because I

have to play for Haryana."

Sehwag was left out of the squads for the tri-series in Sri Lanka and the Champions Trophy in South Africa because of a shoulder injury that had forced him out of the World Twenty20 in England in June. He said his rehabilitation was going well and planned to start batting in the nets by the second week of September.

"Normally I am throwing 20 or 50 balls a day but in second or third week of September, I will start throwing more and try to play the local tournament if I get a chance. I am working hard on my shoulder and hoping that I will be fit before the Champions League Twenty20."

Del Potro, who could play Murray in a quarterfinal, fired 13 aces to beat Austrian Jurgen Melzer 7-6, 6-3, 6-3. The French Open semifinalist from Argentina will face Austrian Daniel Koelliker for a place in the last 16.

Spain's Juan Carlos Ferrero, the 2003 French Open champion and US Open runner-up, fired 17 aces to beat German Philipp Petzschner 1-6, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Up next is Frenchman Simon, with Del Potro possibly awaiting the winner.

Tsonga beat Finland's Jarkko Nieminen 7-5, 6-3, 6-4. The 2008 Australian Open runner-up meets fellow Frenchman Julien Benneteau for a spot in the last 16, a level Tsonga has reached at every Slam but this one.

Chile's Gonzalez fired 26 aces in ousting Frenchman Josselin Ouanna 6-4, 6-7, 6-3, 6-4 while France's Monfils blasted 17 aces in defeating Germany's Andreas Beck 6-3, 7-5, 6-3.

## Indian consortium bidding for BMW

INTERNET, undated

An Indian consortium has allegedly applied to buy BMW-Sauber, which is seeking new backers after German carmaker BMW said it was pulling out of Formula One at the end of the season.

"Indian investors have made an application to purchase the BMW-Sauber team," the Times of India quoted unnamed sources as saying.

The paper said the deal was based around a 50 million euro (40m pound) investment and involved Swiss driver Neel Jani, who currently features in the A1 GP series and whose father is Indian.

An Indian already owns an F1 team with liquor and airline billionaire Vijay Mallya's Force India.

## Tamim's

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"We are professional players and there is nothing wrong if someone bargains over his payment. But it was really unfortunate the way one of Abahani's officials reacted in this matter," complained Tamim.

"But I definitely want to play for Abahani in the future because they are my favourite club and I have fond memories of the club when I went there with my uncle [Akram Khan] at my early age," he added.

## Kiwis sweep

FROM PAGE 17

Bond removed the in-form Tillakaratne Dilshan with his fifth ball, caught at deep square leg, before Kyle Mills dismissed Mahela Udawatte and Sanath Jayasuriya in successive overs.

Skipper Kumar Sangakkara and former captain Mahela Jayawardene put on a brisk 67 for the fourth wicket when Nathan McCullum hit back with two wickets in his first over.

The off-spinner, elder brother of Brendon McCullum had Jayawardene caught at backward point by Ryder off his third delivery for 41 off 30 balls.

He then removed new batsman Angelo Mathews with the final delivery of the innings to make Sri Lanka 80-5 in 11 overs.

Sangakkara gave Jacob Oram a return catch after making 69 before Bond sealed New Zealand's win with the wickets of all-rounder Gihan Rupasinghe and tailender Nuwan Kulasekara.

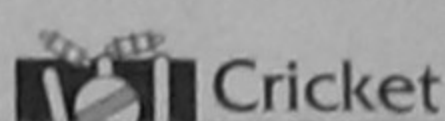
Earlier, McCullum and Ryder bulldozed the Sri Lankan attack for the first 10 overs, racing to 83 runs without being separated.

Jayasuriya broke the stand in the 11th over when he beat McCullum in the air and the batsman offered a simple return catch.

Ryder took over after McCullum's departure, striking two sixes and a boundary in the 12th over sent down by Dilshan which yielded 20 runs.

Jayasuriya finished with 2-22 and Ajantha Mendis took 1-21, while pace spearhead Kulasekara went for 40 runs in four wicketless overs.

## Sachin envisages 2-innings ODIs



AFP, New Delhi

The world's leading batsman Sachin Tendulkar of India has suggested that 50-over one-day internationals be split into two innings of 25 overs each to revive interest in the game.

With the growing popular-

ity of Twenty20 cricket threatening to overshadow the 50-over format, the former India captain said the idea would also provide similar conditions to both teams.

"Today, we can tell the result of close to 75 per cent of matches after the toss. We know how conditions will affect the two teams," Tendulkar told the Times Now

channel late Friday.

"But it [splitting the game] is not too dependent on the toss because if, for example, it's a day-night match, then both the teams will have to bat under lights."

"In those 25 overs you can use your 10 wickets the way you want. Suppose if it rains, then also you can plan. The conditions change very dramatically, but this would ensure that it's the same for everyone."

Tendulkar, the world's top scorer in Tests (12,773) and one-dayers (16,684), said he thought of the idea in 2002 when India and Sri Lanka had to share the Champions Trophy in Colombo following the rain-hit final.

"First, they played 50 overs and we played two before the rain interruption. The next day [reserve day], Sri Lanka again played 50 overs and we played eight. In the end, we were declared joint winners," he said. "I thought, 110 overs and still no result. That's when I thought we should have 25 overs each for both sides and then 25 overs each again."

The debate over the future of one-day cricket has grown after the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) last month abandoned their domestic 50-over competition from 2010.

India's legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar poses with a bat during a function to announce his latest association with leading sports goods manufacturer Adidas in Mumbai on Friday.

## How quickly it changes!



CRICINFO, undated

How quickly the momentum has shifted. After bossing New Zealand around in the Tests, Sri Lanka have been slightly deflated with a loss in momentum, after defeats in both Twenty20 contests over the past three days. New Zealand followed up their three-run victory on Wednesday with 22-run win on Friday to start the limited-overs part of their tough tour on a definite high.

This was most visible right after the second match, when the entire New Zealand team and support staff stood in unison near the dais, waiting for the presentation to start. Kumar Sangakkara came out shortly but had to stop, look around, and then beckon his players to join him in a show of solidarity like the tourists. A visibly flustered Sangakkara called out to a couple players looking on from the dressing room, signalling that the rest all hurry down immediately. Slowly, the Sri Lankans descended the steps and formed a queue around their captain.

Later, in a closed-room press conference, Sangakkara said his team will have to fight hard to regain lost momentum. "It was a great pitch, but we lost too many wickets and were not able to build the kind of partnerships you need. We tried everything and we still came up short. A loss is always a concern. Once you're outplayed, you have to accept it. You learn from it and move on."

For his opposite number, Daniel Vettori, this was an indication of things to come. "The guys will take a lot of confidence from that. I think everyone out there put up a performance at some stage and they'll be happy with that," Vettori said. "They can take that into the one-dayers. For us to make the final will be a great stepping stone for the Champions Trophy."

Both Twenty20 internationals highlighted Sri Lanka's reliance on Tillakaratne Dilshan to provide a good start. On Wednesday, Dilshan blazed away as wickets fell around him and by the time he departed for 57, the damage had been done with Sri Lanka 75 for 4. On Friday, Dilshan's dismissal in the first over was followed by a slump to 11 for 3. "When a batsman's in

form, he always seems to be the guy scoring the runs at the top. Unfortunately the other guys haven't been supporting him as they can," said Sangakkara. "They have the ability to do so but unfortunately we haven't had that. It's a learning process, form comes and goes but I think the players we do have are well capable of getting us the runs and the starts we need to win."

Vettori pinpointed that dismissal as a result of planning -- Martin Gupthill was put out on the boundary for this shot, and Shane Bond dropped the ball short of a length -- and hard work. "Shane stood up and said he wanted to do that job. We had some good plans and they worked today. It's always great when that happens because you work pretty hard and sometimes it doesn't work out. To see it work today and the lift it gave the team was great."

The other concern for Sri Lanka is the lack of runs from Sanath Jayasuriya, whose last eight innings have produced 125 runs at 15.63. His one-day form is equally dismal, with just 132 at 18.66 in his last seven trips to the middle. "It's always a concern when a batsman's out of form," said Sangakkara. "But we all know what he can do and what he has done. We have to give him every chance to get back in there and score runs."

Bond's return to the international circuit has been watched closely by many, including the two captains. The jury is not yet on Bond going into what will be his first real test, the one-day part of this tour. "You can't really tell much in four overs but you've in these conditions fast bowling is always a challenge," said Sangakkara. "Batsmen always back themselves to face pace on these tracks. With the sun coming out of day-nighters, bowling in the sun... that will be the real test for him."

Vettori said it was a great start for Bond, as he attempted to launch himself at the highest level. "You couldn't really ask for too much more. It's great for him to start the way he has and I think he'll get better and better. The role he's performed -- taking the new ball and then coming back at the death... I've been really impressed with the way he bowled then."

He looks confident and when Shane's confident he's a really good bowler. I think we'll see more of that as the one-day series goes on. This series will take the nerves away from him and he'll be able to concentrate on playing cricket now."

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

<b>ACROSS</b>	41 Shredded stick?	<b>DOWN</b>	19 Perch nations ingredient
1 Feathery neckpiece	43 Diamond	1 United	21 Varnish
4 Small ammunition	44 Squad	2 Hawaiian island	23 Unruly group
7 Rope	50 Greek vowel	3 Eastern	25 Knitting stitch
11 Felonious flights	53 Dog's hand	potentate	26 Jason's ship
13 A billion years	55 Enjoying greatly	4 Wager	27 Hasenpfeffer, e.g.
14 Do as you're told	56 New Zealand bird	5 Prosperous period	29 Aware of
15 Buckeye State	57 Time of your life?	6 Pry	30 Stench
16 Excessively	58 iPod model	7 2003 Civil War movie	31 Cushion
17 Not pre-recorded	59 Carolina college	8 Kimono closer	35 Sailor
18 They get in the whey	60 Cover	9 Gun the engine	38 Calendar abbr.
20 Aspic creation	61 Pale	10 Decorate Easter eggs	40 Series of skirmishes
22 Intention		12 Malt-shop setup	42 Pontifical
24 South American prairies			45 Creche trio
28 Santa's runway			47 Rodents do it
32 Woo			48 Sicilian volcano
33 Loosen			49 Any time now
34 Satchel			50 Mamie's man
36 Incite			51 Lubricate
37 Corpulent			52 Pair
39 On the (discreetly)			54 Marry

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

PHONE	CLERK
FOULER	ATHERS
JORDAN	JARHON
ORR	RIGOR
REAP	EEL
DRYAD	WELLERS
RID	SEA
BESTIOES	BLICED
AXIS	BAM
NE	LOYAL
JUSTIN	BERKIN
OW	TIME
TAPED	RITTES

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## CRYPTOQUIP

SWQX EWQ CANQ-DCQOGPXL  
WUMGQF HNOFQC ZEOCEZ  
DOXGPXL P DQE WQ SPNN  
UHQX O MWQMGPXL OMMUAXE.

Saturday's Cryptquip: WHEN MY FRIEND SAID "I ONLY WEAR GLAMOROUS DESIGNER DRESSES," WAS THAT A FASHION STATEMENT?

Today's Cryptquip Clue: Q equals E